



Docket No.: 61352-046

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Yasuo TAKEBE, et al. : Confirmation Number: 5764  
Serial No.: 10/696,505 : Group Art Unit: 1745  
Filed: October 30, 2003 : Examiner: To be Assigned  
For: METHOD OF OPERATING FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND FUEL CELL SYSTEM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

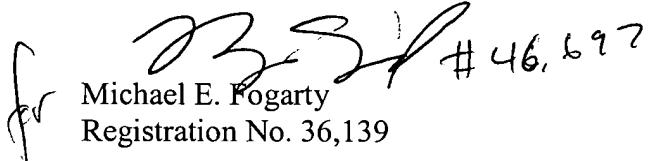
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

**10/696,505**

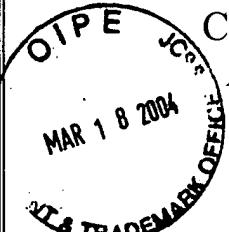
Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: March 18, 2004**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <b>(PTO-1449)</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>61352-046</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/696,505</b>		
				APPLICANT <b>Yasuo TAKEBE, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>October 30, 2003</b>	GROUP <b>1745</b>		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sub>2</sub> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	US	5,302,471	04/12/1994	Ito et al.			
	US	5,677,073	10/14/1997	Kawatsu			
	US	5,763,113	06/09/1998	Meltser et al.			
	US	6,399,231 B1	06/04/2002	Donahue et al.			
	US	6,632,552 B2	10/14/2003	Yamanashi			
	US	6,635,370 B2	10/21/2003	Condit et al.			
	US	2003/0211372 A1	11/13/2003	Adams et al.			
	US	2003/0224228 A1	12/04/2003	Reiser et al.			
	US						
	US						
	US						
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	US						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sub>3</sub> -Number <sub>4</sub> -Kind Codes ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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 Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.